

*L. Long*



BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

ANNUAL REPORT

of the


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1955

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R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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(1)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.  
(with qualifications)

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Medical Officer of Health:

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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Chief Sanitary Inspector  
and Superintendent of Public Cleansing:

H. WOODCOCK.

Certified Sanitary Inspector,  
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.  
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,  
Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Associate Member of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

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Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

R. ISHERWOOD.

Certified Sanitary Inspector,  
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.  
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,  
Royal Sanitary Institute.

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Pupil Sanitary Inspector:

J. OGDEN.

(Commenced 13/9/54).

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Clerk:

MRS. K. THOMAS.

(2)

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND WATER COMMITTEE.

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(Since 20th May, 1955).

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WM. ALDERSON, C.A.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR E. DINSDALE.

Councillors:

C. E. ANGUS.

J. BROUGHTON, J.P.

W. DENT.

A. HAIGHTON.

F. PICKLES.

W. ROBERTS.

J. STANWORTH, M.B.E.

D. H. J. STUTTARD.

J. E. WADE (to 27/9/55).

H. ATKINSON.

E. BROXUP.

Mrs. E. FIELDEN.

T. LANE (from 14/11/55).

T. PYE.

T. SMITH.

W. STARKIE.

F. SUTCLIFFE.

C. E. WHITTAKER.

R. WOOD.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1955.

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To the Chairman and Members of  
Burnley Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentleman,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration the Annual Report on the standard of health in the Burnley Rural District, and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1955.

The year 1955 was a good one for the people of the Burnley Rural area. Apart from an outbreak of an epidemic of measles of a mild type, the number of Infectious Fever Notifications was a little below the average. The infantile mortality rate is the lowest ever recorded, and compares very favourably with that for the rest of the country, which stands at 25 per 1,000 live births.

The conversion of pail and waste water closets to water carriage goes on, slowly it is true, but forward. The improvement in the salvage services, the attention to the examination of water supplies, inspection of food and food premises, the smoke nuisance, rodent control measures, - all show steady progress, and considering the great acreage under the control of the Rural District, the situation is one to be pleased with.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their unfailing support during the past year. To the staff of the Health Department, I am indebted for their hard work, loyalty and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. E. ROBINSON.

Medical Officer of Health.



(4)

SECTION A.

VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Registrar-General's Estimate of population, mid-year 1955... 16,450

Area of the District..... 39,841  
acres

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1955,  
according to Rate Book..... 6,233

Rateable Value.....£192,606  
(as at 1st April, 1956).

Sum represented by 1d. rate.....£503.2621  
(actual for year ended 31st March, 1956).

The chief occupations of the people in the district are cotton weaving, coal mining and dairy farming.

There was practically no unemployment in the district during the year, and social conditions, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory.

Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.....	175	75	100
Illegitimate.....	3	2	1

Birth rate per 1,000  
estimated population, mid-1955..... 12.6

Stillbirths.

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births..... 6

Deaths.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	225	103	122

Death rate per 1,000  
estimated population, mid-1955..... 11.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes.

Puerperal sepsis.....	0
Other maternal causes.....	1

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	0
All infants per 1,000 live births.....	6
Deaths from Cancer.....	40

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Other certified causes of death were as follows:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	0	1	1
Tuberculosis, other.....	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis.....	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	5	3	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	5	1	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	13	8	21
Diabetes.....	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.....	15	19	34
Coronary disease, angina.....	28	13	41
Hypertension with heart disease.....	0	8	8
Other heart disease.....	13	27	40
Other circulatory disease.....	3	5	8
Influenza.....	1	1	2
Pneumonia.....	0	3	3
Bronchitis.....	4	4	8
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	0	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	2	1	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	6	8	14
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	2	3
All other accidents.....	4	7	11
Suicide.....	0	3	3
	103	122	225

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### FOR THE AREA.

##### 1. Laboratory Facilities.

The laboratory work for the department is carried out at the Central Pathological Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

##### 2. Ambulance Facilities.

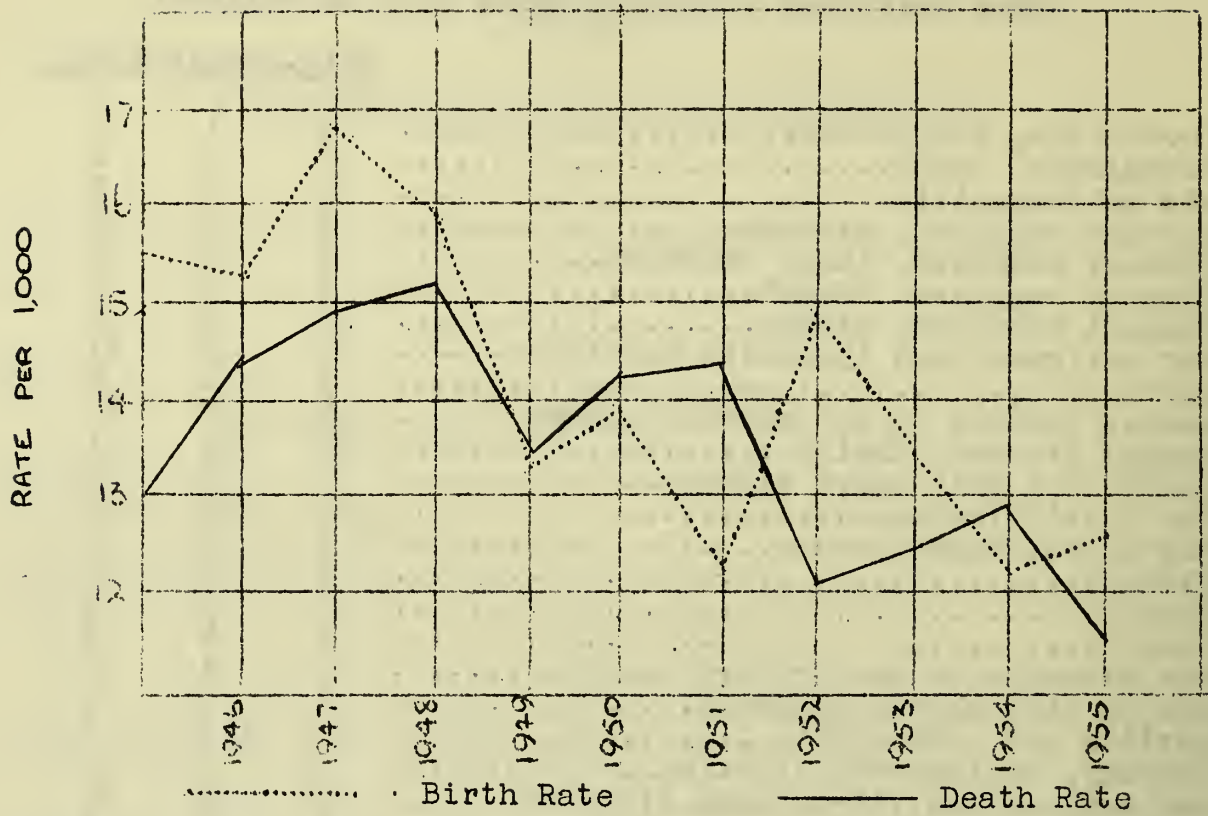
All the ambulance undertakings for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

##### 3. Nursing Services.

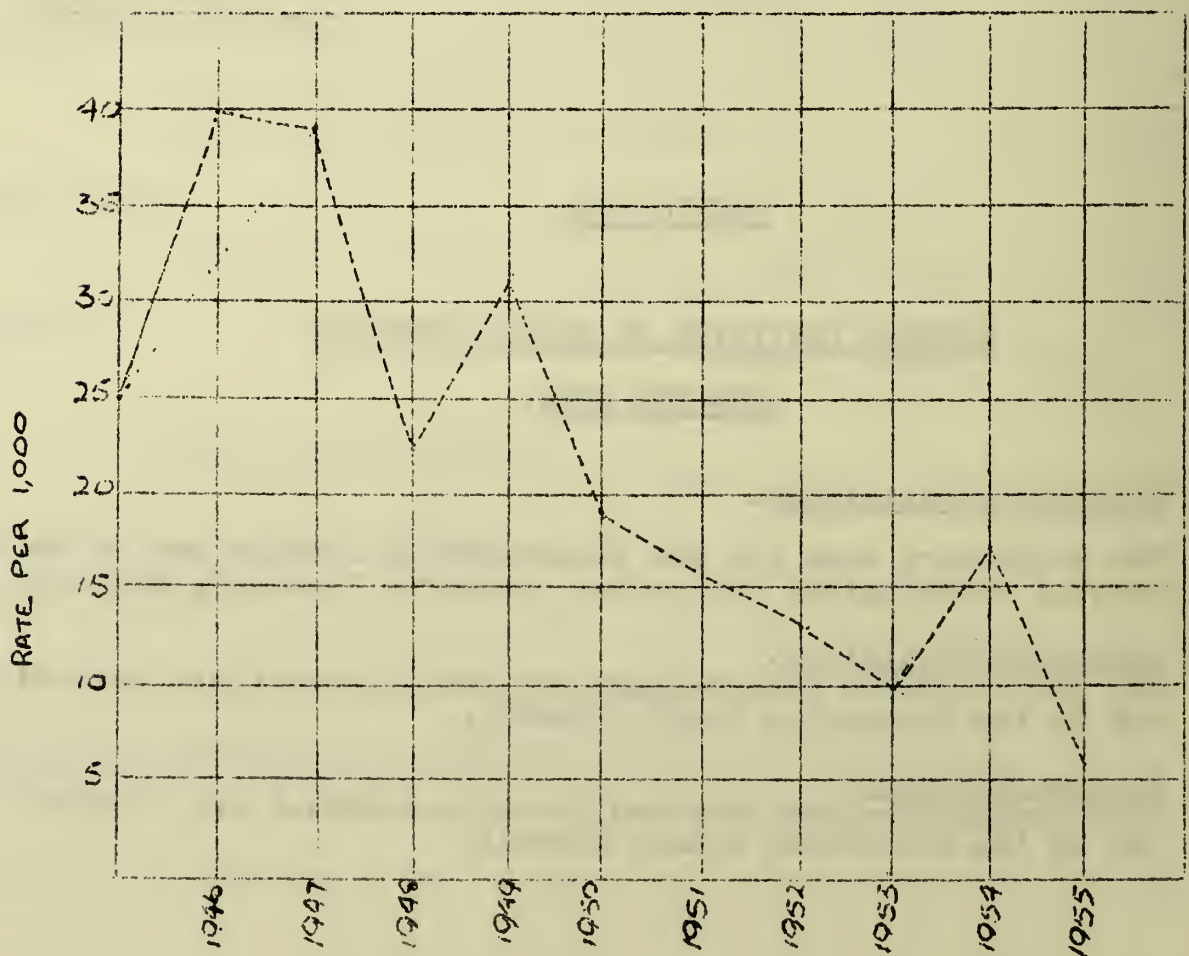
The nursing services provided for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

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GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH RATE FOR  
PAST 10 YEARS.



GRAPH SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FOR  
PAST 10 YEARS.





#### 4. Immunisation and Vaccination Services, Home Helps, etc.

All these are under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

#### 5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

##### Child Welfare Centres:-

Barrowford U.D.C.	.....	Congregational Sunday School, Hill Top, Barrowford.
Brierfield U.D.C.	.....	Town Hall Annexe, Brierfield.
Burnley R.D.C.	.....	Methodist Chapel, Briercliffe. Village Hall, Holme, Cliviger. Warehouse Lane, Foulridge. Council School, Hapton. 7, Town Gate, Higham. Methodist Sunday School, Sabden. Methodist Sunday School, Worsthorne.
Colne M.B.	.....	Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
Nelson M.B.	.....	9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.
Padiham U.D.C.	.....	West Bank House, Padiham.
Trawden U.D.C.	.....	St. Mary's Church Schoolroom, Trawden.

##### School Clinics:-

Elizabeth Street, Burnley.  
West Bank House, Padiham.  
9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.  
Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.  
259, Manchester Road, Nelson.

##### Tuberculosis:-

Cases of suspected tuberculosis are now seen at the Chest Clinic, Marsden Hospital, Marsden Road, Burnley.

##### Venereal Disease:-

At the Out-Patient Department, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

##### Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases:-

Christiana Hartley Hospital, Colne.  
Fern Lea, Nelson.  
Bank Hall, Burnley.

All these are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.Infectious Diseases.

The infectious diseases notified during the year were:

Scarlet Fever.....	7
Whooping Cough.....	9
Measles.....	125
Acute Pneumonia.....	3
Dysentery.....	3
Food Poisoning.....	4
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic).....	4

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non- Pulmonary</u>	<u>Total.</u>
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No. of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form A.....	3	0	3
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns).....	0	0	0

Localisation of Disease.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
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Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	2	1	3
Meninges and C.N.S.....	0	0	0
Other.....	0	0	0
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

Occupations of Patients.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
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Domestic Servant.....	0	1	1
Engineer.....	1	0	1
Grocery Driver.....	1	0	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

There were no cases of scabies notified to this  
Authority during the year.

SECTION D.CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.1. Water Supply.

The area is supplied chiefly by water from the Council's own waterworks and from those of adjoining local authorities, but in addition there are also several privately owned water supplies.

The number of samples taken during the year was:

Bacteriological.

Public supplies: 20  
Private supplies: 10

Chemical.

Public supplies: 0  
Private supplies: 1

Details of the estimated number of houses with a piped supply of water are as follows:

	Piped Supplies			Not Piped
	No. of dwelling houses	From public water mains	From private supplies	
Altham.....	230	230	-	-
Barley.....	84	24	53	7
Blacko.....	183	156	19	8
Briercliffe.....	887	868	9	10
Cliviger.....	582	476	94	12
Dunnockshaw.....	136	34	98	4
Foulridge.....	505	464	33	8
Goldshaw Booth.....	87	39	46	2
Habergham Eaves.....	261	229	30	2
Hapton.....	624	589	31	4
Higham.....	215	159	50	6
Ightenhill.....	58	58	-	-
Northtown.....	31	17	13	1
Old Laund Booth.....	266	219	47	-
Read.....	338	319	19	-
Reedley Hallows.....	305	255	49	1
Roughlee.....	124	54	69	1
Sabden.....	448	392	56	-
Simonstone.....	232	220	12	-
Worsthorne.....	637	631	6	-

The department has been engaged during the year checking up on the purity of water supplies.



In all, 31 samples of water, from public and private supplies, were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, Burnley, for analysis.

The results of these samples were as follows:

Public Supplies.

20 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	20
Number reported good.....	0
Number reported suspicious.....	0
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	0

Private Supplies.

10 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	5
Number reported good.....	0
Number reported suspicious.....	1
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	4

1 sample taken for chemical analysis and reported to be free from contamination by organic matter.

In cases where water is reported unsatisfactory the users are requested to boil all water to be used for drinking purposes. Unsatisfactory sources are investigated and where possible advice given to owners so that improvements may be effected.

Where there are several springs running into one private supply, samples are taken from each spring, and where one or more is found to be unsatisfactory, then such spring can be disconnected, leaving only those where pure water is delivered.

In several cases it has been found that water issuing from a spring is piped for varying distances in field drain pipes to the tank which is used for storage, and an improvement has been carried out in some cases by the construction of a brick tank properly covered to receive the water from the spring, the water then being conveyed to the storage tank by properly jointed earthenware pipes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

When any septic tanks are emptied an inspection is made, and where improvements or repairs are necessary the appropriate notice is served on the owner.

The Cliviger sewerage scheme was completed in January, 1954, and there are now only twenty-seven pails existing which are within 100 ft. of the sewer. Efforts are now being made to persuade property owners to convert their pails to fresh water closets.

Approximate number of houses connected to sewer..... 348.

In these cases the pails mentioned previously are outstanding, but the sink drainage from these twenty-seven houses has been connected to the sewer.



The chief source of river pollution is still from unsewered villages, as follows:

Barley, Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), Dunnockshaw, Ightenhill, Newchurch-in-Pendle, and Roughlee.

Another source of pollution is caused by drainage from farms. Sink drainage is usually piped direct to the nearest stream, and liquid manure tanks are, in the majority of cases, fitted with overflow pipes, again which discharge into adjoining streams. In some cases heavy pollution is caused by faulty outlet valves on these liquid manure tanks.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In April, 1950, the Council decided to give financial assistance towards the cost of converting privies and pail closets to fresh water closets. A grant of £8, or half the cost of the conversion, which ever is the lesser, is now paid towards the cost of these improvements.

The following table shows the number of conversions carried out during the year:

Privy closets to fresh water closets.....	1
Privy closets to waste water closets.....	0
Privy closets to pail closets.....	0
Pail closets to fresh water closets.....	11
Pail closets to waste water closets,.....	0
Trough closets to fresh water closets.....	0
Waste water closets to fresh water closets.....	32

The approximate number of the different types of sanitary conveniences in the district are as follows:

Fresh water closets.....	3034
Waste water closets.....	2434
Pail closets (including tank closets).....	889
Trough closets.....	16

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The department has, on the whole, given a weekly collection of both nightsoil and refuse. When, in 1950, it was considered that the department should own its own vehicles, a report was made stating the number of vehicles and men thought to be sufficient to carry out a regular weekly service.

The number was given as follows:

One cesspool emptier, staffed by a driver and one loader.  
Two refuse vehicles, each staffed by a driver and four loaders.

A smaller vehicle to scavenge the more scattered properties, to be staffed by a driver and one loader.

This number of men and vehicles were employed last year, except for the Ford Diesel, which had an additional loader to compensate for extra houses built. These houses are either detached or semi-detached and the work is difficult for the men because of the long carries.

The first two vehicles which were purchased are now five years old and often lose time owing to breakdowns. In addition, whenever there have been any staff depletions, it has been necessary to transfer workmen from the refuse disposal side in order to maintain collections. This has resulted in tips being left in an unsatisfactory state. Where tips do not receive proper attention they become soft and vehicles tend to sink down to the axle. This in turn necessitates towing by another vehicle, thus leading to delays in the service.

The September holiday has in previous years caused dislocation of the service. The usual practice has been to cease collections, but it was found that very few people went away for the whole week, and consequently the men were faced with double bins in every district when work was resumed. In September the bins become heavier due to increased ash content, and this gives us a bad start for the winter when a weekly collection is difficult to maintain. This year, however, the holiday was staggered and the service continued, and as a result it was found that the collections were quite well maintained throughout the winter.

#### Vehicles and Labour.

One 18/20 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper, staffed by a driver and four loaders.

One 10 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Side Loader staffed by a driver and four loaders.

One Ford 7 cu. yd. Side Loading vehicle staffed by a driver and two loaders. This vehicle has shown considerable saving in fuel but repair costs have been high. There is excessive vibration because the engine is idling for much of the day, and it is not practical to stop the engine whilst loading bins as too low a temperature is reached for efficient working.

#### Nightsoil Collection and Emptying of Cesspools.

One 800 gallon Shelvoke and Drewry Cesspool Emptier.

This vehicle is staffed by a driver and one loader only, and collection was maintained generally on a weekly basis. The vehicle is worked for fifty-two weeks in the year, for the driver and loader can be replaced at holiday times.

Approximately 650 pails are emptied weekly, and cesspools and privies are emptied at regular intervals. Septic tanks have usually to be emptied outside the regular working hours.

#### Refuse Disposal.

Household refuse is deposited on tips in the parishes of Foulridge, Reedley, Hapton, Dunnockshaw, Old Laund and Briercliffe.

The tip at Reedley is practically full, and it is urgent that a new site should be found to replace this. Also there is need for a tipping site at Read and Simonstone. Since the waggon returns to the depot with practically a full load of waste paper it is most important that the last load of refuse should be deposited very close to the village where it has last worked.



SALVAGE.

There was much greater demand for waste paper at prices which averaged £8 per ton. The quantity of paper collected and sold was increased by 26% on the previous year's total, and many other salvage materials were sorted and sold as will be seen from the figures given below:

	<u>T.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>Q.</u>	<u>lb.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Waste paper.....	121.	11.	3.	0.	976.	17.	2.
Cardboard.....	4.	19.	2.	0.	49.	15.	0.
Mixed rags.....		18.	2.	9.	21.	19.	8.
Aluminium.....		1.	0.	15.	5.	7.	0.
String.....		1.	1.	26.		13.	10.
Mixed metals.....		1.	0.	18.	6.	10.	0.
Light scrap metal.....	7.	0.	3.	0.	3.	11.	0.
Brass.....			1.	2.	1.	5.	0.
Copper.....			1.	15.	2.	13.	9.
Woollens.....			1.	1.	1.	9.	0.
	<u>134</u>	<u>15.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>£1070.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>5.</u>

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There is still a great need for sanitary conveniences in the district as only two parishes, Foulridge and Briercliffe, are so provided. The greatest need is in the parishes which attract numerous visitors at week-ends and public holidays.

DISINFECTION.

During the year 31 houses were visited for the purpose of disinfection. Formaldehyde was used in all cases except in the case of tuberculosis, where a 5% Izal solution was used.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection, where necessary, to Burnley County Borough Cleansing Station.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The colliery spoilbank which has been burning for some years has now practically burnt itself out. Clay and stone were tipped to an average depth of ten or twelve feet over the whole area, and this has been very effective in keeping down the nuisance.

The gas manufacturing plant (which has been reported previously) still causes considerable nuisance to householders when the wind blows from the east. This affects, to a large extent, the people living in the Urban District of Clayton-le-Moors. The renewal of the boilers has been completed, and practically no smoke issues from this chimney at present.

There are considerable by-products from incomplete combustion when coal is charged into the gas-making furnaces. Whilst the ovens are open at the top, and the coal is being discharged, there is considerable smoke and grit given off from the open doors of the ovens. It is intended to fix a chimney over the coal-discharging apparatus which will have provision for the entry of air at the bottom, and it is hoped to cause the smoke and grit to burn at the top of the chimney, and thus reduce the nuisance. This apparatus will be fitted at an early date.

Another cause of nuisance at these works is the quenching of the red hot coke when it has been discharged from the ovens. The coke is carried along in a container and placed under a quenching plant, which discharges water over the red hot coke. This is done out in the open, and each time a charge of coke is quenched there is a considerable emission of smoke and grit. There has been as yet no suggestion of any remedy to this nuisance.

Many of the cotton mills in the district are fitted with Lancashire boilers which are hand fired. This gives rise to regular emission of black smoke and is the cause of several complaints in various parishes.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent control in private dwellings and business premises was carried out during the year. A free service was given in the case of private dwellings, but a charge is made for the treatment of business premises.

Rat destruction in the sewers has been carried out only once during the year, and below are given details of infestations in sewer lengths treated up to the end of December, 1955.

#### Treatment, 1955.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Treated</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	50	2	4
Briercliffe.....	57	15	26
Cliviger.....	146	27	18
Foulridge.....	50	8	16
Higham.....	60	3	5
Read and Simonstone.....	57	3	5
Sabden.....	118	5	10
Worsthorne.....	84	10	12

Comparison is made with the figures obtained when these lengths of sewers were previously treated:

#### Treatment, October, 1954.

Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	18	0	0
Briercliffe.....	18	6	33
Foulridge.....	32	4	12
Hapton and Altham.....	59	7	12
Higham.....	15	3	20
Read and Simonstone.....	35	2	6
Reedley.....	10	7	70
Sabden.....	29	8	28
Worsthorne.....	36	12	33



Treatment, April, 1954.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Treated</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	50	8	16
Briercliffe.....	57	4	7
Cliviger.....	107	5	5
Foulridge.....	51	9	17
Hapton and Altham.....	82	21	25
Higham.....	60	6	10
Read and Simonstone.....	57	13	23
Reedley.....	19	4	21
Sabden.....	51	11	21
Worsthorne.....	84	22	26

Treatment, October, 1953.

Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	3	0	0
Briercliffe.....	9	0	0
Cliviger.....	17	4	24
Foulridge.....	15	3	20
Hapton and Altham.....	13	0	0
Higham.....	13	2	15
Read and Simonstone.....	13	9	69
Reedley.....	8	0	0
Sabden.....	40	5	12
Worsthorne.....	69	13	19

Treatment, April, 1953.

Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	47	2	4
Briercliffe.....	57	5	9
Cliviger.....	57	10	18
Foulridge.....	45	1	2
Hapton and Altham.....	70	10	14
Higham.....	60	6	10
Read and Simonstone.....	53	6	11
Reedley.....	19	0	0
Sabden.....	40	11	27
Worsthorne.....	69	16	23

Treatment, September, 1952.

Altham, Read, and Simonstone.....	18	2	11
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	15	2	13
Briercliffe.....	3	0	0
Foulridge.....	8	4	50
Hapton.....	7	1	14
Higham.....	11	0	0
Reedley.....	7	0	0
Sabden.....	34	10	29
Worsthorne.....	16	8	50

Treatment, April, 1952.

Altham, Read, and Simonstone.....	20	5	25
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	38	5	13
Briercliffe.....	7	0	0
Foulridge.....	43	1	2
Hapton.....	12	5	42
Higham.....	29	2	7
Reedley.....	7	0	0
Sabden.....	22	16	73
Worsthorne.....	49	2	4

Treatment, August, 1951.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Treated.</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u>
Altham, Read, Simonstone.....	54	20	37
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	73	11	15
Briercliffe.....	57	3	5
Foulridge.....	45	11	24
Hapton and Altham.....	69	5	7
Higham.....	61	7	11
Reedley.....	21	3	14
Sabden.....	40	6	15
Worsthorne.....	84	15	18

Treatment, January, 1951.

Altham, Read, Simonstone.....	25	9	36
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	14	2	14
Briercliffe.....	3	0	0
Foulridge.....	26	4	15
Hapton and Altham.....	10	6	60
Reedley.....	4	0	0
Sabden.....	26	5	19
Worsthorne.....	5	1	20

Treatment, July, 1950.

Altham, Read, Simonstone.....	54	8	15
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	10	1	10
Briercliffe.....	9	2	22
Foulridge.....	45	19	42
Hapton, Altham.....	9	2	22
Higham.....	8	2	25
Reedley.....	3	0	0
Sabden.....	40	10	25
Worsthorne.....	10	2	20

Treatment, January, 1950.

Altham, Read, Simonstone.....	52	25	48
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	74	13	18
Briercliffe.....	46	8	17
Foulridge.....	45	9	20
Hapton, Altham.....	61	13	21
Higham.....	62	13	21
Reedley.....	13	0	0
Worsthorne.....	84	13	16

No. 11 Workable Area for Rodent Control.

The No. 11 Workable Area was formed early in 1946. This area comprises Colne, Nelson, Trawden, Brierfield, Barrowford, Burnley, and Padiham districts, and Burnley Rural district. Each district is represented by a member of the Local Authority and the Sanitary Inspector. Half-yearly meetings are held in the respective districts, when problems and progress are discussed.

OTHER VERMIN.

Two Council houses and three other houses were disinfested during the year. Three were infested with cockroaches and two were infested with fleas.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Appendix A on page 25 shows the number of inspections carried out during the year.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There are two main sites on which vans and sheds are situated, in addition to a number of movable dwellings on single sites in other parts of the district. One of these sites is licensed by the Council. Arrangements were made for the owner to collect nightsoil from the vans. This is then transferred to the Council's cesspool emptier for disposal.

Occasionally complaints are received of gypsies parking on the grass verges for short periods.

FACTORIES.

There are 94 factories in the district, chiefly cotton mills, and these are inspected regularly. Many of the factories have had modern sanitary accommodation installed in place of existing insanitary types.

There has been some difficulty in the parish of Altham where there are two factories with insufficient sanitary accommodation, and it has not been possible for the owner to install additional accommodation because of the lack of facilities for sewage disposal in that part of the district.

Factory inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	No. on register	Inspections	Notices.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authority....	2	2	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (not included above)..	89	63	13
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	3	3	-



Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. in which defects were found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary conveniences:			
(a) Insufficient.....	-	-	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	13	5	6
TOTAL	13	5	8

SECTION E.HOUSING.

There were no houses erected by the Council during the year, and none was erected by other local authorities in the district. Twenty three houses were erected by other bodies or persons during the year.

Fifty-two applications have been received for two and three-bedroomed houses, and twenty-five applications for old people's bungalows. These totals include several applications submitted in 1951 which are now due for reconsideration.

Inspection and Repair of Houses.

There are not nearly the number of reports of housing defects which there were pre-1939. During the past ten years many tenants have purchased the houses in which they live, and landlords who had a house empty took advantage of the increased value of houses to put them up for sale. Many of these houses which were in a poor state of repair when occupied as tenanted houses have now been given a new lease of life by the money spent by the owner-occupiers, and in many cases by their own manual efforts.

Housing Act, 1939, Part ii.

Under paragraph (5) in Appendix C, details are given of applications for grants to improve property.

Applications were made from owners of twenty-two properties but none were granted.

Rent Increases and Certificates of Disrepair.  
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This Act came into operation in July, 1954, and the intention was to allow owners of rented houses to increase the rents where their houses had been maintained in suitable condition.



Where a landlord intended to increase the rent he had to serve a notice on the tenant setting out full details of money spent on the property and repairs carried out. Where a tenant believed that the house was not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, he could apply to the Local Authority for a certificate of disrepair, for which he had to pay one shilling.

During the past year five applications were received for certificates of disrepair, and two were granted. Although this gives no indication of the extent to which landlords have tried to repair their property and so qualify for rent increase, from information received it does not appear that the working of this part of the Act has been successful.

The number of houses inspected during the year was 206, and 618 re-inspections were made. 90 informal notices requiring repairs to be carried out were served during the year, and 34 informal notices were complied with. One formal notice was served under the Public Health Acts, and three were served under Sections 9, 10, 11, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936. Proceedings were taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of four houses, and under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, in respect of three houses.

Particulars of housing inspections and repair work carried out are given in Appendices B. and C.

## SECTION F.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (a) Milk Supply.

On the 30th September, 1949, many of the duties in connection with milk supplies were taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The inspection of dairy farms is now no longer the concern of the Local Authority, but the Local Authority is responsible for the supervision of dairymen and milk distributors other than dairy farmers. The Local Authority is also responsible for the sampling of milk for biological tests.

No. of milk distributors in the district.....	19
No. of dairies in the district.....	13
Shops in the district other than dairies.....	4
Premises outside the district.....	2
No. of dealer's licences issued in respect of the distribution of tuberculin tested milk..	11
No. of dealer's licence issued in respect of the distribution of sterilised milk.....	4
No. of dealer's licences issued in respect of the distribution of pasteurised milk.....	11

(b) Biological Examination of Milk Samples.Raw Milk.

No. of samples taken for tuberculosis tests.....	60
No. reported negative.....	59
No. reported positive.....	1
Percentage of positive samples.....	1.6%
(By comparison the positive samples 1954 were.....	.73%)

The positive sample of raw milk was obtained from a distributor who produced milk in the district.

Three positive samples of raw milk were reported by adjoining authorities, and notices were served on the farmers concerned restraining the sale of raw milk for human consumption unless suitably heat treated.

One cow was seized in the case of the sample taken in the Rural District, and two cows were seized in the other cases, by the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food.

No. of samples taken for methylene blue tests.....	57
No. reported satisfactory.....	48
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	9

Heat Treated Milk.

No. of samples for phosphatase tests.....	25
No. reported satisfactory.....	22
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	0
No results were obtained for three samples submitted.	

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Under the Government war-time scheme of meat control, private slaughterhouses in the district were not used until the 1st July, 1954. All slaughtering for this area, before July, 1954, was carried out at Burnley and Colne public abattoirs, with the exception of cottagers' pigs.

In July, 1954, the Council licensed four slaughterhouses, one each in the parishes of Dunnockshaw, Cliviger, Higham, and Sabden. The butchers' shops were inspected and generally found to be clean and well maintained.

Details of meat inspected and condemned within the district during 1955 is shown in Appendix E, on page 30.

There was one case of cysticercus bovis found in the slaughterhouses in the district during the year.

Condemned Meat.

In the cases of meat condemned at slaughterhouses and butchers' shops, small amounts are buried at the tip, and in some cases are buried at the slaughterhouses. Large quantities of condemned meat are sent for manufacture into fertilizer.

Meat is coloured green at the time of condemnation.



Food & Drugs Act, 1938 - 1950.

The County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 - 1950, and deals with the adulteration of food.

During the year 85 samples were obtained, of these 58 were of milk and the other 27 samples comprised:-

1 Pepper	1 Sultanas
1 Margarine	1 Glycerine
1 Sugar	1 Indian Brandee
1 Tea	1 Orange Squash
1 Fruit Canned	1 Meat Potted
1 Pork Sausage	1 Olive Oil
1 Cream Canned	1 Butter
1 Ground Mixed Spice	1 Fresh Peaches
1 Ground Nutmeg	1 Liquid Paraffin
1 Ground Ginger	1 Glycerine of Borax
1 Pickles	5 Condensed Full Cream
1 Currants	Milk (unsweetened)

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>Results of Analysis.</u>	<u>Action Taken.</u>
1 Pork Sausage	Meat content only 58%.	Vendor interviewed.
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 2.8% extraneous water.	Same vendor. Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 2.1% extraneous water.	
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 0.8% extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 1.0% extraneous water.	Vendor interviewed and further sample obtained.
1 Informal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 0.5% extraneous water.	Same vendor. Milking supervised and further samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 0.8% extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 0.5% extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 3.3% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 1.6% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated presence of 4.0% extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>Result of Analysis.</u>	<u>Action Taken.</u>
1 Condensed Full Cream Milk unsweetened	The deposit of calcium citrate crystals amounted to 1 gram in the whole tin. The sample was otherwise satisfactory.	Vendor interviewed.
1 Condensed Full Cream Milk unsweetened	The prescribed declaration was not in dark block type of the required height. The deposit of calcium citrate crystals amounted to 0.95 gram in the whole tin. The contents of the tin were otherwise satisfactory.	
1 Condensed Full Cream Milk unsweetened	The prescribed declaration was not in dark block type of the required height. The deposit of calcium citrate crystals amounted to 1.2 gram in the whole tin. The contents of the tin were otherwise satisfactory.	
1 Condensed Full Cream Milk unsweetened	The prescribed declaration was not in dark block type of the required height. The deposit of calcium citrate crystals amounted to 1.2 gram in the whole tin. The contents of the tin were otherwise satisfactory.	
1 Condensed Full Cream Milk unsweetened	The prescribed declaration was not in dark block type of the required height.	

(d) Food Preparing Premises.

Regular visits were made to canteens and food shops which are generally kept in a satisfactory manner.

There are however, one or two exceptions, and these are not easily improved. It does not seem possible to make a person handle food in a hygienic manner if he or she has not received adequate training.

The most effective remedy is for visits to be made daily and to set the food handler certain specific tasks to be carried out each day. In this way, improvements can be brought about, but it involves expense in travelling if one particular shop or canteen has to be visited for a long period.

Where the premises do not comply with the Food and Drugs Act, the necessary notices are served on the occupier.



There are quite a considerable number of cottagers who have catering licences, and these people are open only at holiday times and week-ends, and they are therefore difficult to supervise. To supervise such premises, it would be necessary to make regular visits on Sundays and public holidays.

Number of Food Premises by type of business at end of year.

General grocers and provision dealers.....	77
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc).....	11
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc)...	0
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.).....	18
Bakers and/or Confectioners.....	17
Fried Fish Shops.....	13
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.....	22
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars, and similar catering establishments.....	45
Others.....	42

(e) Ice Cream.

The necessary attention was given to premises where ice cream is prepared and/or sold.

Thirteen samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, Burnley, for analysis.

The results were obtained as follows:

Number of samples reported Grade 1.....	10
Number of samples reported Grade 2.....	1
Number of samples reported Grade 4.....	2

Further samples were taken in the case of the three unsatisfactory samples and the supplies were improved.

(f) Bakehouses.

There are seventeen bakehouses on the register, and routine inspections were carried out.

SCHOOLS.

During the year the twenty-three schools in the district were inspected and the following information may be of interest:

Number of schools with unsatisfactory yard surfaces.... 16

<u>Sanitary Accommodation:</u> - No. of schools with	
Fresh water closets.....	15
Waste water closets.....	0
Trough closets.....	3
Pail closets.....	5

<u>Refuse Disposal:</u> - No. of schools with	
Dustbins.....	23
Ashpits.....	0

<u>Water Supply:</u> - No. of schools supplied from	
Public mains.....	21
Private supplies.....	2
No. of private supplies considered unsatisfactory.....	0

Water Supply (Cont):

No. of schools where washing facilities  
are unsatisfactory..... 18

Drainage:

No. of schools with drainage to:  
Public sewers..... 17  
Private treatment works..... 0

Facilities for handling meals at the schools are  
generally satisfactory. The main fault seems to be the  
restricted space.

APPENDIX A.SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE.General Sanitation.

Inspections under the Housing Acts.....	392
Inspections and visits in connection with I.D. cases.....	43
Disinfection of rooms.....	31
Inspections under the Public Health Acts.....	226
Visits re caravans and movable dwellings.....	18
Visits to factories re sanitary accommodation.....	63
Visits re refuse and salvage disposal.....	375
Visits re dustbins, pails, etc.....	153
Visits re septic tanks and filters.....	26
Interviews with property owners.....	160
Old drains inspected.....	131
Miscellaneous sanitary visits.....	60
Shops inspected under Shops Act.....	216
Visits re conversions.....	17
Premises inspected for vermin.....	2
Visits to dirty houses.....	2
Old drains tested.....	53
Visits re water supplies.....	9
Visits re piggeries.....	3
Visits re ponds, ditches and watercourses.....	1
Visits re accumulations and deposits.....	18
Visits re infected milk supplies.....	9
Visits re verminous premises.....	16
Smoke observations.....	8
Visits to refuse tips.....	8
Bedding, etc., steam disinfected.....	1
Visits re smoke.....	1

Meat and Food Inspection and Inspection of Food Premises and Vehicles.

Meat inspection at shops and slaughterhouses.....	477
Butchers' shops inspected.....	26
Milk shops inspected.....	1
Food preparing premises inspected.....	12
Bakehouses inspected.....	38
Miscellaneous food visits.....	8
Fried fish shops inspected.....	9
Visits re milk licences.....	1
Restaurants inspected.....	1
Grocers' shops inspected.....	5
Dairies inspected.....	1
Ice cream premises inspected.....	2
Licensed premises inspected.....	34
Milk vehicles inspected.....	1
Visits re proposed slaughterhouses.....	1
Visits re milk supplies.....	1

Sampling.

Milk samples taken.....	91
Water samples taken.....	31
Ice cream samples taken.....	13
Meat samples submitted for examination.....	1

Miscellaneous.

Visits to schools.....	37
Library books disinfected.....	6



APPENDIX B.SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.Dwelling Houses,

Roofs repaired or new roofs provided.....	3
Rainwater gutters provided or repaired.....	4
Rooms redecorated.....	2
Defective windows repaired.....	3
External walls rendered with waterproof cement.....	1
Rooms provided with additional window light.....	1
Defective plaster repaired.....	6
Floors repaired or renewed.....	4
Dampness abated.....	4
Pantry provided.....	1
Dirty houses cleansed.....	3
Walls repointed or repaired.....	1
Dirty houses cleansed from vermin.....	1
Windows provided with new sash cords.....	1
Doors renewed or repaired.....	1
Fire ranges repaired or renewed.....	1
Doors and door frames repaired.....	1
Common yards or gardens separated.....	1

Waterclosets, dustbins, etc.

Additional water closets provided.....	19
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets.....	32
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets.....	11
Tipplers repaired or renewed.....	3
Pail closets converted to waste water closets.....	1
Privy closets converted to fresh water closets.....	1

Drainage.

Choked drains cleansed.....	31
Drains repaired or reconstructed.....	2
New septic tanks provided.....	1
Repairs and improvements to water storage tank.....	1
Houses provided with piped water supply.....	4

Factories, Workshops, and Shops.

New sanitary conveniences provided in factories....	2
Screening provided.....	1

Miscellaneous.

Deposits of refuse removed.....	4
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APPENDIX C.1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 206
- (b) No. of inspections formal or informal made for the purpose..... 618
2. Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit.
  - (a) No. found during the year..... 50
  - (b) No. (or estimated No.) at end of year..... 50
3. No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit..... 90

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents, Act, 1954).

1. No. of dwelling houses demolished during the year:
  - (a) Unfit houses..... 0
  - (b) Other houses..... 0
2. No. of persons displaced..... 0

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
1. Houses demolished or closed during the year:		
(a) Housing Act, 1936:-		
i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec.11)....	0	0
ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Sec. 11 and still in force..	4	0
iii) Parts of building closed (Sec. 12).....	0	0
(b) Housing Act, 1949:-		
i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2).....	0	0
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:-		
i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2).....	3	0

		<u>No. of</u> <u>houses.</u>	
2.	Repairs during the year:		
	(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.....	34	
	(b) Public Health Acts - Action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied:-		
	i) By owners.....	1	
	ii) By local authority in default of owners.....	0	
	(c) Housing Act, 1936 - Action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11, and 16):		
	Houses made fit		
	i) By owners.....	3	
	ii) By local authority in default of owners.....	0	
	(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954: Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved, and demolition orders revoked (Section 5).....	0	
4.	<u>Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)</u>		
	1. No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7.....	0	
	2. No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above.....	0	
	3. No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6).....	0	
5.	<u>Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants, etc.</u>		
	Action during the year:		
		<u>No. of</u> <u>schemes</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>houses.</u>
	(1) Private bodies or individuals -		
	(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority.....	22	22
	(b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry...	0	0
	(c) Finally approved by Ministry.....	0	0
	(d) Work completed.....	0	0
	(2) Local Authority -		
	(a) Submitted by local authority to Ministry...	0	0
	(b) Finally approved by Ministry.....	0	0
	(c) Work completed.....	0	0
	(3) Any other action taken under the Act:		
	Loan of £480 under Section 4 of the Act for the purchase and repair and improvement of a house.		



APPENDIX D.PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	Type of property			
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses.	All other including business premises.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district.	14	6233	836	510
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification.	-	34	19	13
(b) Survey under the Act.	9	-	-	78
(c) Otherwise	2	35	3	-
3. Total inspections: carried out, including re-inspections.	38	121	34	125
4. Number of properties inspected (in Section 2) found to be infested by:				
(a) Rats	11	52	12	61
(b) Mice	-	17	7	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Section 4) treated.	11	69	19	61
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-
7. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX E.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned  
in whole or in part.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
	<u>cows</u>			<u>Lambs.</u>	
Number killed (if known).....	240	87	25	1170	388
Number inspected.....	240	87	25	1170	388
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	0	0	0	5	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	3	3	0	33	19
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.....	1.66%	3.45%	0%	3.25%	5.41%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	2	2	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	62	26	0	0	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.....	28.33%	32.2%	0%	0%	.26%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	1	0	0	0	0
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration...	1	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned.....	0	0	0	0	0





